

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for managing a plurality of resources comprising:

a management module in communication with the plurality of resources; the management module capable of receiving a request to access information related to one or more of the plurality of resources, the plurality of resources comprising one or more resources of differing type; and

in response to the receipt of a request to access information, the management module accesses information from more than one resource, one or more resources manages one or more objects, and one or more objects are managed by two or more resources.

~~wherein the plurality of resources comprise one or more resources of differing type.~~

2. (Original) A system as defined in claim 1 wherein the management module comprises a configuration manager for receiving information from a plurality of resources and a configuration store for storing predetermined information for the plurality of resources.

3. (Original) A system as defined in claim 2 wherein the configuration manager installs resources such that the management module can modify configuration information for the plurality of resources.

4. (Original) A system as defined in claim 3 wherein each of the plurality of resources provides information to the configuration manager in XML format.

5. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in claim 1 wherein ~~each of the plurality of resources manages one or more objects, wherein~~ each object comprises:
- one or more attributes, each attribute having a data field and a value;
 - one or more associated tasks that may be performed on the object; and wherein the management module accesses attribute and task information from the associated resources in response to a request to access information.
6. (Original) A system as defined in claim 5 wherein the attribute information for an object is provided by more than one resource.
7. (Original) A system as defined in claim 6 wherein each object is defined by a property sheet and the attribute information is a property page in the property sheet.
8. (Original) A system as defined in claim 6 wherein the task information for an object is provided by more than one resource.
9. (Original) A system as defined in claim 6 wherein each object is defined by a property sheet and the task information is in a property page associated with the property sheet.
10. (Original) A system as defined in claim 6 further comprising:
- a configuration manager for receiving and storing information from a plurality of resources relating to managed objects; and
 - a property sheet manager for receiving and storing property sheet information related to managed objects.
11. (Original) A system as defined in claim 1 further comprising:
- a configuration manager for receiving information from a plurality of resources, each resource having associated objects;

a configuration store for storing predetermined information for the plurality of resources;
and

a search manager adapted to receive predetermined search information from a plurality of resources;

a search data store adapted to store predetermined search information for the various resources; and

wherein the search manager searches the plurality of resources in response to a single search request.

12. (Original) A system as defined in claim 1 wherein the management layer further comprises:

a configuration manager for receiving information from a plurality of resources, each resource having associated objects;

a configuration store for storing predetermined information for the plurality of resources;
and

a task manager, wherein the task manager receives task information from the configuration manager related to tasks that may be completed in managing the plurality of resources.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of managing a plurality of resources, each resource having one or more managed objects, wherein each of the one or more managed objects has associated attribute and task information, the method comprising:

receiving information from a first resource related to attribute information for a first managed object;

receiving information from a second resource related to attribute information for the first

managed object, wherein the second resource is a different type than the first resource;[[,]]

storing the information received from the second resource with the information received from the first resource in association with the first managed object;

receiving a request to access information related to the first managed object; and

upon receiving the request to access information related to the first managed object,
accessing ~~stored information from~~ stored by the first resource and separately stored by the
~~second resources-resource~~ to access information related to the first managed object.

14. (Original) A method as defined in claim 13 wherein the information received from the first resource comprises a first property page and wherein the information received from the second resource comprises a second property page and wherein the method further comprises:

creating a property sheet for the first managed object;

associating the first property page with the property sheet; and

associating the second property page with the property sheet.

15. (Original) A method as defined in claim 14 further comprising:

receiving a search request from a client computer system; and

searching a plurality of resources in response to the single search request using information associated with the property sheet.

16. (Original) A method as defined in claim 15 further comprising the act of sharing search information between resources.

17. (Original) A method as defined in claim 14 further comprising:

receiving a task request from a client computer system; and

in response to the task request, requesting task completion from a plurality of resources.

18. (Previously presented) A method as defined in claim 17 wherein the act of requesting task completion from a plurality of resources comprises:

identifying two or more resources to configure in response to the task request; and performing the task by accessing the two or more resources identified to perform a task from a client's computer system.

19. (Original) A method as defined in claim 13 wherein the act of receiving information from the first and second resources is performed by a configuration manager and wherein the method further comprises:

notifying a search manager that search information has been received.

20. (Original) A method as defined in claim 13 wherein the act of receiving information from the first and second resources is performed by a configuration manager and wherein the method further comprises:

notifying a task manager that search information has been received.

21. (Original) A computer program product readable by a computer and encoding instructions for executing the method recited in claim 13.

22. (Original) A computer program product readable by a computer and encoding instructions for executing the method recited in claim 17.

23. (Original) A computer program product readable by a computer and encoding instructions for executing the method recited in claim 18.

24. (Previously presented) A computer program product readable by a computer and having stored thereon a data structure comprising information provided by a first

resource relating to attribute information for a first managed object and information provided by a second resource relating to attribute information for the first managed object, wherein the attribute information is utilized in response to a request for information about the first managed object.

25. (Previously presented) The computer program product as defined in claim 24 wherein the data structure further comprises task information provided by the first and second resources utilized in response to a request for information about the first managed object.

26. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of resources comprises one of printer, workstation, server, databases, security systems, email account, or user account.